

Developed Stage

- 2011
- Tiptop Training Centre arranged for its members to perform in the “Praise for Life – Take 5 Carnival”. The jazz performance helped local residents understand more about members’ talents.
- March The Association terminated the beauty and massage services provided by Serene Club in order to cut loss.
- June The Association’s first-ever Charity Raffle was launched. Nearly 380 thousand dollars was raised to support the central administration cost of the Association.
- The Association conducted a 16-week “Pioneering Fitness Programme for Adults with Down Syndrome”. The Project aimed to slow down the rate of degradation in DS adults by providing them with fitness training and encouraging an exercising habit.
- August To improve cost-effectiveness, the Shop at Ka Wai Estate Hung Hom was closed down. More effort was put into the operation of the two shops in Tuen Mun.
- September Discovery Bay Recreation Club Limited organized a Charity Tennis Tournament to raise funds for the Association’s ArtLink Centre, a self-financed service that enables low-income families to enjoy its art development services.
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- 2012
- March The Stevie Award for Outstanding Persons with Down Syndrome was successfully held to commend the outstanding personal performances and achievements of people with Down Syndrome.
- The Association held a “Lots of Socks” Campaign for World Down Syndrome Day at Plaza Hollywood on 16th March. We were greatly honored to have Ms. Donna Tang, Charities Manager of The Hong Kong Jockey Club and the Association’s Ambassador, Sugar Club officiate at the ceremony and be our

key performing stars of the day.

September On 22nd September, the Association launched a territory-wide Flag Day Event. Over HK1.4 million was raised to support the Association's self-financed services as well as central administrative expenditures.

On 17th September, Discovery Bay Recreation Club Limited organized a Charity Tennis Tournament to raise funds for the Association's ArtLink Centre, a self-financed service that enables low-income families to enjoy its art development services. More than HK\$120,000 was collected.

November On 17th November, the Association's 25th Anniversary Walkathon was held at the Peak. More than HK\$228,000 was collected to establish a new unit to specifically serve people with Down Syndrome. Special thanks to our President, Sir David Tang, KBE for his whole-hearted support and participation in the event.

2013

With funding from "Operation Santa Clause 2013", a support service for newborns and preschool children with Down Syndrome was launched.

The ageing problem of our service users is becoming more serious in recent years, especially those in our "Sheltered Workshop" service. Thus, the Centre launched the "Talents of the Elderly Group" with programmes designed to address the needs of the ageing service users whose physical functions have begun to show signs of degeneration by encouraging them to participate in training.

January With the sponsorship of the "Eu Yan Sang Charitable Foundation", the Association published a book entitled "Life, Set Sail" to provide guidance to parents of infants with Down Syndrome.

April The Down's Car Beauty Team and the Kwan Ngai Service were combined to form "The Down's Kwan Ngai Service Team",

comprising people with Down Syndrome and other disabilities. With the restructuring, the team's capacity for providing cleaning services (including public facilities, offices, domestic households and cars), packaging and bulk-mail processing was substantially enhanced.

July "ArtLink" was restructured and formally renamed "DS Centre". It became the only service centre in Hong Kong dedicated to providing services especially for people with Down Syndrome. The Centre provides opportunities for the members to develop their talents and promotes the concept of well-being and healthy lifestyle through providing various training and professional service case management.

The Association organized a group performance entitled "Love Art Life Variety Show" to let members show off their spectacular talents such as Chinese Opera, drama, modern dance, musical instruments like percussions and hand bells, etc.)

Employment Services Centre launched the "Community Boss" scheme this year. We publicized information about the employment of people with disabilities to small businesses in Kwai Chung and Tsuen Wan areas, and encouraged them to employ people with disabilities or provide vacancies for on-the-job training.

September On 28th September 2013, Discovery Bay Residents Club Limited organized a Charity Tennis Tournament to raise funds for the Association's DS Centre, a self-financed service. More than HK\$150,000 was collected to enhance the development of the services of DS Centre.

The Down Syndrome Dance Team went to Singapore for an exchange field trip. They visited local Down Syndrome organizations and met with local dance groups in order to gain a better understanding of the support services in Singapore.

2014 March To celebrate the 3rd World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD) in

March, the Association held a "My Life is Wonderful" Walkathon cum Experiential Carnival on 15th March 2014 at Tai Po Park. The celebration events were also used to raise funds for HKDSA, especially for their self-financed DS Center. A total donation sum of HK\$280,000 was raised.

September HKDSA and the Institute of Human Performance, The University of Hong Kong, co-organised a 「FIT FUN TRY – 21」 Carnival cum Press Conference to announce the results of the “Up Up and Be Healthy” Research. The University’s Vice Chancellor Professor Mathieson and his wife Dr. Christiana Mathieson, Assistant Director of the Institute of Human Performance Dr. Michael Tse, and HKDSA’s Vice President Dr. Andrew Yuen were invited as the officiating guests.

October On 4th October 2014, Discovery Bay Residents Club Limited again organized a Charity Tennis Tournament to raise funds to enhance the development of services of the Association’s self-financed DS Centre.

November In acknowledgement of our work in providing employment support and development to people with disabilities, our social enterprise was awarded with a SEE Mark Accreditation from The Hong Kong General Chamber of Social Enterprise Limited, and named a “Loving Social Enterprise” and “Outstanding Social Enterprise” by the Social Welfare Department’s ‘Enhancing Employment of People with Disabilities through Small Enterprise Project’.

With sponsorship from the Ladies Recreation Club and one generous donor, over HK\$200,000 was raised for sending our DS Swimming Team to the 7th Down Syndrome International & World Championships in Mexico. Our team achieved excellent results at the event, winning 5 Gold, 5 Silver and 6 Bronze medals.

Association and local photographer Mr. Frank Freeman proudly presented “The Purest People” – A Roving Photo Exhibition at the HK Culture Centre, A link, CC Wu Building, the Lincoln House Linkbridge at Taikoo Place, the Education Resources Centre at Kowloon Tong and at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital respectively.

- March To celebrate World Down Syndrome Day 2015, The Hong Kong Down Syndrome Association held a Cantonese Opera Charity Show III at Sunbeam Theatre on 20 Mar 2015. The charity show has entered its third year and aims to let the public gain a better understanding of people with Down Syndrome as well as their art talent development. Besides, it also encourages people with Down Syndrome and other intellectual disabilities to join and promotes the Cantonese opera culture locally. A donation sum of around HK\$300,000 was raised for usage in the art and other services development of our service users.
- April Many thanks to the Ladies Recreation Club (LRC) again. We were invited to join LRC Swimathon, and all of the funds raised will be used to support the swimming project of HKDSA.
- June A press release on the ‘Needs of DS People and the Mental Health Condition of Caregivers’ was held at the Hong Kong Council of Social Service. The report showed that caregivers displayed various degrees of health and emotional problems such as depression and low self-esteem. Therefore, it was suggested the government should recognize their contribution by providing a caregiver allowance medical and transportation allowance, etc.
- August The 12th World Down Syndrome Congress was held at Chennai, India from 19 to 21 August 2015, and the Association nominated 3 staff and 1 executive committee member to attend. The theme of the Congress was “Let’s make an inclusive tomorrow”, and delegates had the common goal that the quality of life of people with Down Syndrome could be improved through experience sharing from different countries

and different walks of life. Some of the key topics discussed include the social awareness & self-determination, health, education & employment, support system, rights and laws for people with Down Syndrome

October HKDSA was pleased to be chosen as one of the beneficiaries of The 12th Discovery Bay Recreation Club Charity Tennis 2015. A dinner cum cheque presentation ceremony was held in the evening, where an auction also took place. Thanks to the contributions and unfailing support from all the donors, more than HK\$160,000 was raised and donated to HKDSA.

The Association held an anniversary cum awards presentation ceremony at the Christian Family Service Centre's auditorium for the 'Industrious Adulthood and Positive Ageing for People with Down Syndrome and Intellectual Disability Project' (IP Project) on 24th October 2015. It was our great honor to invite Legislative Councillor (Social Welfare Functional Constituency) Mr. Peter Cheng Kwok Che, Assistant Director (Rehabilitation and Medical Social Services) Mr. Fong Kai Leung, and Project Manager of the Chow Tai Fook Charity Foundation Ms. Miranda Chan to be the officiating guests. Together, participants, mentors and sponsors celebrated the positive outcomes of the project, and certificates were awarded to recognize all the mentors who helped their mentees achieve a more positive ageing experience.

November HKDSA encouraged members to get their eyes checked by launching "A Wonderful World – Vision Health Project" with the help of donations from Novation Solutions Limited, Mr. Thomas Wee Soon Thong and Mr. Michael KM Leung. Not only does the program aim to increase the number of members to get their eyes checked by doctors, but it also raises awareness about the importance of eye care amongst members and their parents. On 6th November 2015, HKDSA held a cheque presentation ceremony to thank our donors.
